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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

Montana
Agricultural
Experiment
Station

Bozeman,
Montana

MONTANA WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

Snowpack and Streamflow
Forecasts as of
April 1, 1985

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
SNOW SURVEY UNIT
Federal Bldg., Rm. 443
10 East Babcock Street
Bozeman, MT 59715
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**1935-1985
50 Years of
Soil and Water
Conservation**

Little improvement
seen statewide

The Montana Water Supply Outlook is a publication of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service. The SCS administers the Cooperative Snow Survey Program in cooperation with other federal, state and private agencies, organizations, and individuals.

The report is prepared by SCS, Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecast Staff, Room 443, Federal Building, 10 East Babcock, Bozeman, Montana.

The snowfall pattern set earlier this winter is continuing. The northern half of the state continues to show near average snow cover in the headwater areas while below average snowpack is the rule for southern drainages. There was a little southward migration of the "good" snowline. Likewise, there was a little improvement in the three very low areas near Philipsburg, Bozeman and Red Lodge.

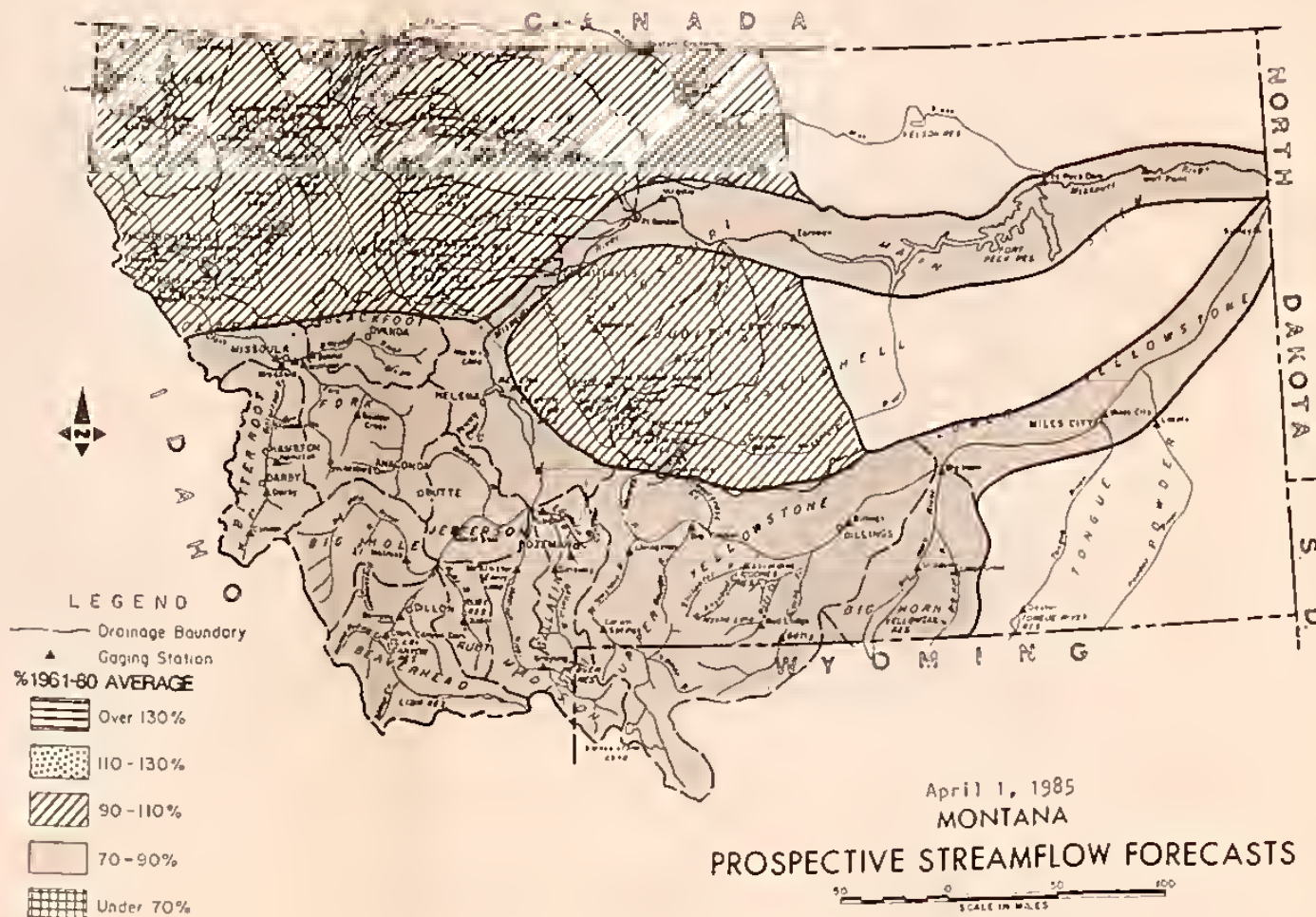
Low elevation snowmelt was observed near the end of March.

North near average,
south below average

Spring and summer streamflows are forecast to be 15 to 20 percent less than average for the Missouri River headwaters and along the main stem of the Missouri, for almost all of the Yellowstone River system and for most of the Clark Fork River drainage west of the Divide.

Runoff within 10 percent of average is expected on streams in the Kootenai, Flathead and most downstream tributaries to the Missouri River.

Some shortages of irrigation water supplies are anticipated on the smaller streams across the southern part of the state.



April 1, 1985
MONTANA
PROSPECTIVE STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Missouri River & Hudson Bay Drainages

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

APRIL 1, 1985

BASIN, STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	THIS YEAR				PAST RECORD			
	FORECAST		PAST RECORD		FORECAST		PAST RECORD	
	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE

BASIN, STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	APRIL - SEPTEMBER				APRIL - JULY			
	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
RED ROCK RIVER near Bonida (1)	92.0	89	244	103	86.0	89	212	96.3
BEAVERHEAD RIVER near Grant (2)	136	86	435	158	122	89	337	137
BEAVERHEAD RIVER at Barratts (2)	180	86		209	159	88		180
RUBY RIVER near Alder	87.5	86		101	73.5	86		84.6
BIG HOLE RIVER near Melrose	640	84		760	595	85		698
WILLOW CREEK near Harrison	17.0	85		20.0	15.5	87		17.8
MADISON RIVER near Graveling (3)	415	84	575	496	330	85	440	388
MADISON RIVER near McAllister (4)	705	83	1,114	848	570	85	874	672
GALLATIN RIVER near Gateway	460	84		545	395	85		464
SUP OF EAST-WEST FORKS HYALITE CR. nr Bozeman (5)	23.5	84		28.0	20.9	84		24.2
HYALITE CREEK near Bozeman (6)	38.8	86		44.8	33.8	87		38.7
GALLATIN RIVER at Logan	485	79		611	415	79		523
MISSOURI RIVER at Toston (7)	2,080	82	3,827	2,545	1,845	84	3,179	2,196
SHEEP CREEK near White Sulphur Springs	21.0	96		21.8	18.2	96		19.0
SUN RIVER at Gibson Dam (8)	545	96	336	570	500	96	296	522
BELT CREEK near Bonanza	128	96		134	119	97		123
MISSOURI RIVER at Fort Benton (9)	3,250	82		3,980	2,920	84		3,468
TWO MEDICINE CREEK near Browning (10)	226	92		248	215	92		235
BADGER CREEK near Browning	118	90		130	102	90		113
INFLOW SWEETWATER RESERVOIR near Dupuyer	79.0	91		86.7	68.7	92		74.7
CUT BANK CREEK at Cut Bank	102	90		114	97.5	90		108
MARIAS RIVER near Shelby	489	90		542	470	91		518
MISSOURI RIVER at Virgelle (11)	3,795	83		4,570	3,425	85		4,030
MISSOURI RIVER near Landusky (11)	4,205	84		4,980	3,370	86		4,383
NORTH FORK MUSSELSHELL RIVER near Delphine	6.0	94		6.4	5.1	95		5.4
SOUTH FORK MUSSELSHELL RIVER above Martinsdale	57.5	92		62.8	54.7	93		58.9
MISSOURI RIVER below Fort Peck Dam (11)	4,100	83		4,961	3,810	86		4,428
MILK RIVER at Eastern Crossing	79.7	98		81.7				
MILK RIVER at Eastern Crossing (12)	235	95		248				
INFLOW LAKE SAKAKAWA RD (11)	10,460	82		12,755	10,400	85		12,239
SASKATCHEWAN RIVER BASIN								
SWIFT CURRENT CREEK at Sherburne (13)	129	100	102	128	110	98	97.4	112
ST. MARY'S RIVER near Babb (13)	470	97		487	404	97		416

- (1) Adjusted for storage in Lima Reservoir.
- (2) Adjusted for storage in Lima and Clark Canyon Reservoirs.
- (3) Adjusted for storage in Hebgen Lake.
- (4) Adjusted for storage in Hebgen Lake and Ennis Lake.
- (5) Sum of West Fork Hyalite Creek and East Fork Hyalite Creek above the Reservoir.
- (6) Adjusted for storage in Middle Creek Reservoir.
- (7) Adjusted for storage in Lima, Hebgen, Ennis & Clark Canyon Reservoirs.
- (8) Adjusted for storage in Gibson Reservoir & diversions.
- (9) Adjusted for storage in Lima, Clark Canyon, Hebgen, Ennis, Gibson, Pishkun, Willow Creek & Canyon Ferry Reservoirs.
- (10) Adjusted for storage in Two Medicine Reservoir & diversions in Two Medicine Canal.
- (11) Adjusted for all upstream reservoirs.
- (12) Flow at Eastern Crossing minus St. Mary's Canal.
- (13) Adjusted for storage in Lake Sherburne.

ALL FORECASTS PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

NOTE:
According to the Bureau of Reclamation, although forecasts at this time appear to be near normal - the outlook for water supply is critical because of unusual low storage in Fresno, Nelson and Sherburne.

Missouri headwaters

remain low

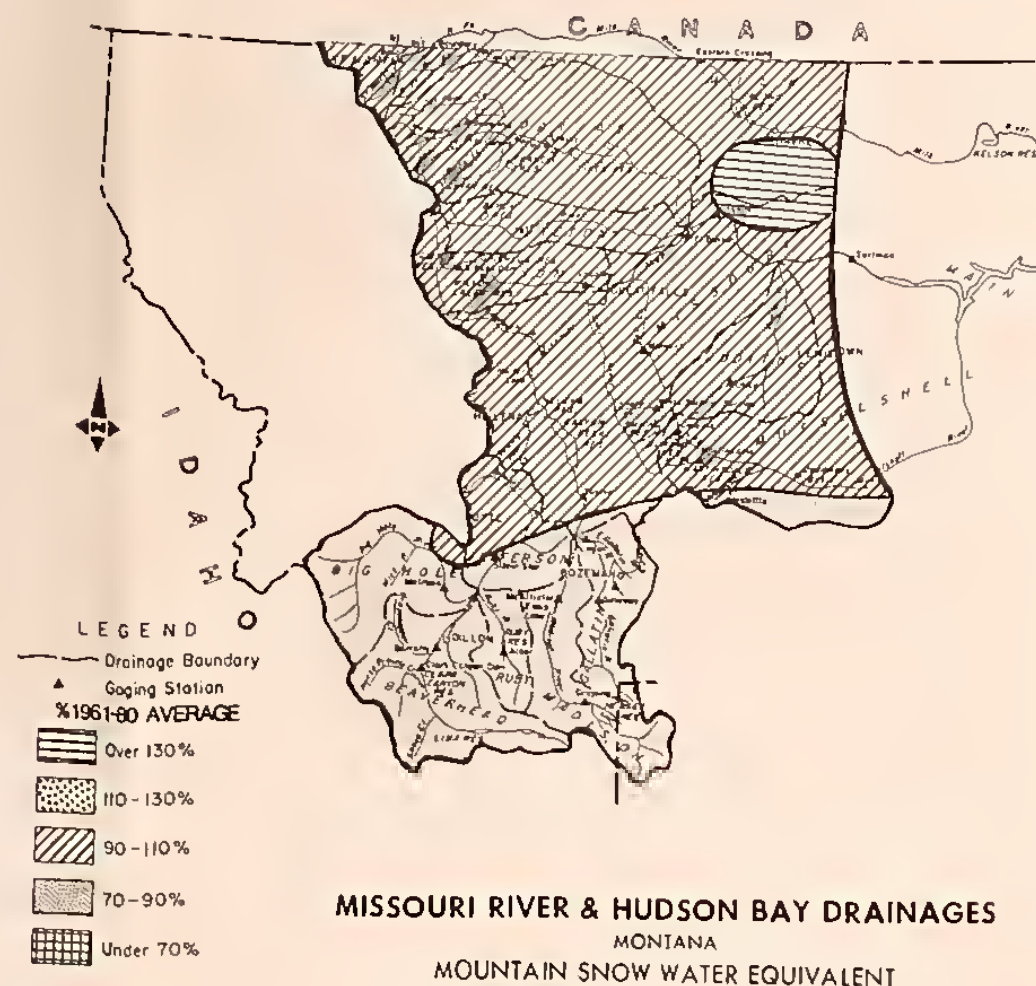
The Missouri River headwaters above Canyon Ferry Reservoir continue to show below average snowpack while all other areas are generally about average. The Bear Paw Mountains, south of Havre, still have above average snow water content even though some melt has occurred at lower elevations.

Snow in the Missouri headwaters is generally in the 80 to 90 percent of average range except for the Bridger Mountains near Bozeman where the winter's accumulation is about 70 percent of average.

Snow in the lower elevations began melting near the end of March.

SUMMARY OF SNOW MEASUREMENTS

RIVER BASIN and/or SUBWATERSHED	Number of Gauging Stations	THIS YEAR'S SNOW WATER AS PERCENT OF	
		Last Year	Average
Beaverhead	31	94	87
Ruby	13	79	83
Big Hole	29	101	86
Boulder	15	94	86
Jefferson	88	94	86
Madison	34	87	87
Gallatin	24	81	77
Missouri Headwater	146	90	85
West-side Missouri (Toston-Cascade)	11	121	92
Smith-Belt-Arrow	11	103	91
Missouri Main-stem	22	110	92
Teton & Sun	12	213	95
Marias	7	153	90
Marias-Teton-Sun	19	177	92
Judith-Musselshell	19	93	94
Milk	11	157	106
Bear Paws	6	129	143
Missouri (Total)	217	99	88
Saskatchewan			
St. Mary's	7	156	96
Bow River in Alberta	14	101	82



Little change in streamflow forecasts

Forecasts of spring and summer streamflows are similar to those issued last month.

Most of the streams in the headwaters of the Missouri are forecast to produce around 80 to 85 percent of average runoff. Downstream tributaries are expected to have flows that are near to 10 percent below average. Some increase in streamflows was observed in late March and early April as temperatures warmed and melted some of the low elevation snowpack.

Runoff in the main stem of the Missouri should be around 80 to 85 percent average.

Some shortages of mid- and late season irrigation water supplies are expected in the southwest. There are also some shortages anticipated along the Milk River where reservoir storage is well below average.

Yellowstone River Drainage

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

APRIL 1, 1985

BASIN, STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	THIS YEAR				PAST RECORD			
	FORECAST		PAST RECORD		FORECAST		PAST RECORD	
	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE

BASIN, STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	APRIL - SEPTEMBER				APRIL - JULY			
	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE	THOUSAND ACRES	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Corwin Springs	1,770	86	1,097	2,027	1,450	86	1,622	1,686
YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Livingston	2,025	85		2,379	1,675	85		1,969
BOULDER RIVER at Big Timber	330	83		398	310	85		366
STILLWATER near Absarokee (1)	540	85		632	450	85		528
CLARK'S FORK RIVER near Belfry	500	80		628	450	80		563
ROCK CREEK near Red Lodge	98.0	85		115	75.0	85		88.1
INFLOW COONEY RESERVOIR near Boyd (2)	51.5	85		60.5	42.0	85		49.5
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Billings	3,810	85	4,262	4,516	3,335	87	3,594	3,833
BIGHORN RIVER near St. Xavier (3)	1,680	85	1,974	1,976	1,550	86	1,688	1,794
LITTLE BIGHORN RIVER near Hardin	145	80		182	130	81		162
TONGUE RIVER near Decker	215	80		269	195	80		244
YELLOWSTONE RIVER at Miles City (4)	5,710	84		6,787	5,080	84		5,906
POWDER RIVER at Moorhead	191	73		243	180	74		243
YELLOWSTONE RIVER near Sidney (5)	6,195	82		7,518	5,370	82		6,544

- (1) Adjusted for storage in Mystic Lake.
- (2) Adjusted for storage in Cooney Reservoir.
- (3) Adjusted for storage in Buffalo Bill, Boysen, Bull Lake, Pilot Butte and Bighorn Reservoirs.
- (4) Adjusted for storage in Bull Lake, Buffalo Bill, Boysen, Pilot Butte, Bighorn and Tongue River Reservoirs.
- (5) Adjusted for reservoirs shown in (4) and diversions into the Lower Yellowstone Canal.

ALL FORECASTS PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

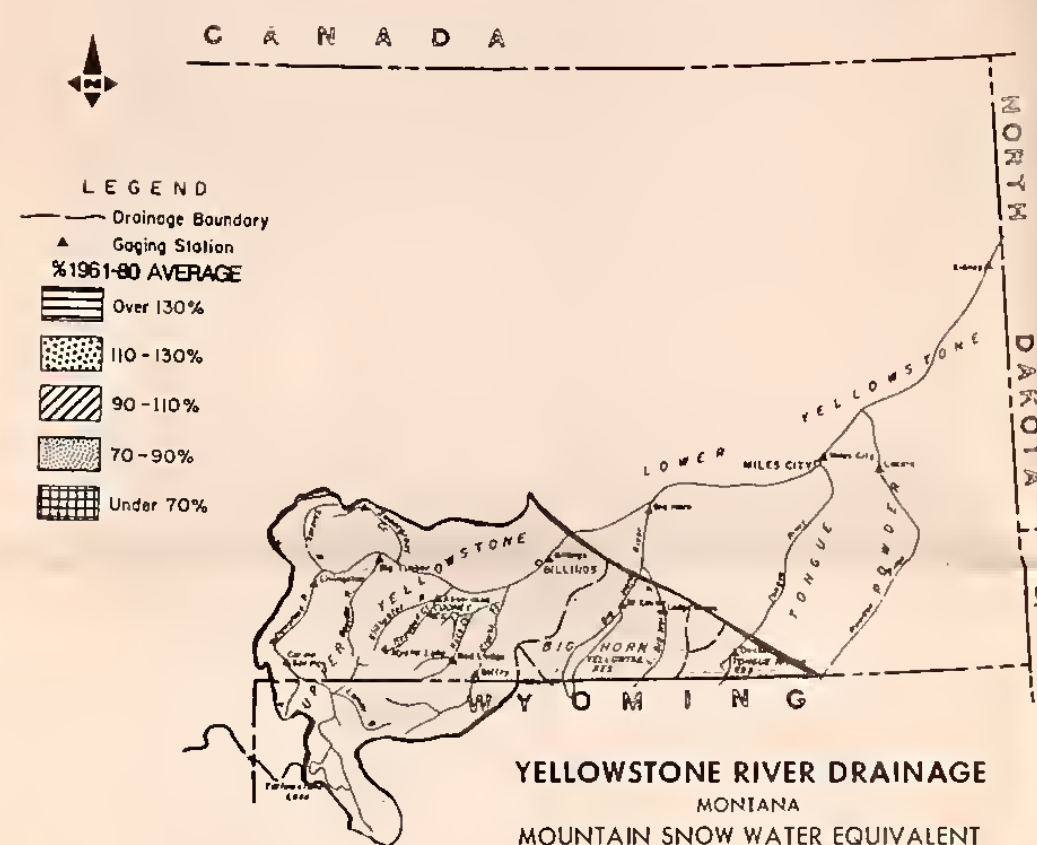
WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

STREAM or AREA	Flow Period	
	Spring Season	Late Season
Yellowstone at Livingston	Avg	Fair
Shields	Fair	Fair
Boulder	Avg	Fair
Sweetgrass - Big Timber	Fair	Fair
Stillwater	Avg	Fair
Rock Creek	Avg	Fair
Clark's Fork	Fair	Fair
Yellowstone above Bighorn	Fair	Fair
Bighorn	Fair	Fair
Little Bighorn	Fair	Poor
Tongue	Fair	Fair
Powder	Fair	Fair
Lower Yellowstone	Fair	Fair

Some water shortages possible

April through September runoff is forecast to be 15 to 20 percent below average on most of the Yellowstone River drainages. Some mid- and late season shortages of irrigation water supplies are expected on smaller streams.

Most streams started rising near the end of March as temperatures warmed and low elevation snow began to melt.



SUMMARY OF SNOW MEASUREMENTS

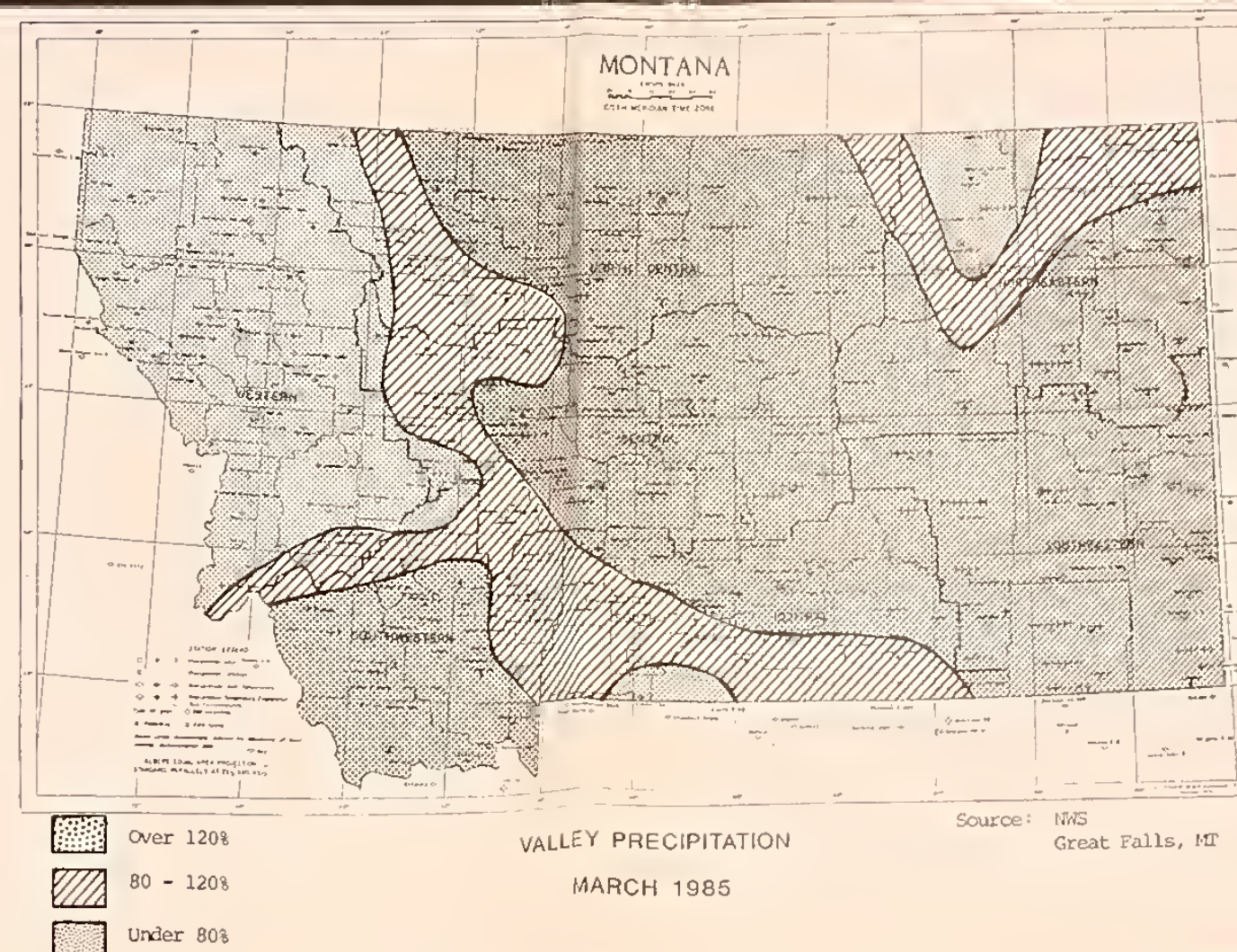
RIVER BASIN and/or SUBWATERSHED	Number of Gauging Stations	THIS YEAR'S SNOW WATER AS PERCENT OF	
		Last Year	Average
Upper Yellowstone	20	111	82
Shields	10	74	76
Boulder			
Stillwater	11	114	85
Rock Creek & Clark's Fork	16	106	81
Yellowstone (ab Bighorn River)	57	103	81
Bighorn/Wyoming	30	87	74
Little Bighorn	3	76	73
Tongue	9	79	78
Powder	5	76	72
Yellowstone (Total)	101	96	79

Snowpack still below average

This season's accumulation of water in the snowpack is below average for all of the Yellowstone River headwaters and tributaries. Most areas have about 80 to 85 percent of their usual snowpack.

Around Red Lodge, snowpack levels continue to be lower than other parts of the Yellowstone. In this area, the snow is only 70 to 75 percent of average.

Some melting of low elevation snow has begun.



Source: NWS Great Falls, MT

SNOW SURVEY DATA

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-80
MONTANA						
ABUNDANCE LAKE	6800	3/29/85	44	18.0	18.3	22.0
AMROSE	6480	3/28/85	47	13.2	12.1	14.1
ARCH FALLS	7350	3/24/85	43	11.6	11.8	13.8
ASHLEY DIVIDE	4820	3/28/85	26	7.7	4.3	6.1
ASHLEY LAKE	4000	3/28/85	26	7.3	3.7	5.6
BADGER PASS	6900	4/02/85	92	34.2	26.0	40.4
BADGER PASS BUTYL	6900	3/29/85	---	28.8	21.8	37.0
BALO EAGLE PEAR	5700	3/25/85	158	65.4	44.2	62.9
BALO RIDGE	7500	3/29/85	58	13.6	15.6	14.2
BANFIELD MOUNTAIN	5600	3/25/85	60	22.1	11.4	24.5
BANFIELD MOUNTAIN BUTYL	5600	4/01/85	---	18.3	10.7	19.8
BARRE CREEK	3500	3/28/85	110	45.1	29.9	48.9
BARRE MIDWAY	4600	3/28/85	107	39.3	20.9	38.1
BARRE TRAIL	3800	3/28/85	38	12.5	1.0	9.5
BARKER LAKES	3250	4/03/85	53	15.2	13.0	16.4
BARKER LAKES BUTYL	3250	4/01/85	---	15.9	14.4	16.9
BASTIN CREEK	7180	3/27/85	44	9.5	8.4	8.5
BASTIN CREEK METAL	7180	4/01/85	---	8.7	8.1	8.1
BASSOOD PEAR	5150	4/01/85	39	12.2	4.1	11.2
BEAGLE SPRINGS	8850	3/30/85	34	7.4	8.6	9.5
BEAGLE SPGS METAL	8850	4/01/85	---	7.5	9.2	9.5
BEAR BASIN	8150	3/27/85	61	16.2	23.0	22.3
BEAR PAM SKI AREA	5200	3/29/85	38	11.2	8.4	7.7
BEAVER LAKE	5900	4/02/85	61	21.4	14.0	24.8
BERRY MEADOW	7000	3/27/85	30	7.1	8.0	8.3
BIG CREEK	6750	4/03/85	107	40.7	42.0	47.2
BIG SKY	7700	4/01/85	53	16.6	18.2	16.6
BIG SKY MEADOW	6350	4/01/85	39	8.5	11.1	10.2
BIG SNOWY	7150	3/25/85	66	22.3	28.8	23.1
BLACK BEAR	7950	3/25/85	103	38.0	37.1	43.9
BLACK BEAR BUTYL	7950	4/01/85	---	36.5	32.9	39.0
BLACK MOUNTAIN	7750	4/02/85	55	15.7	16.5	16.7
BLACK PINE	7100	3/29/85	39	10.2	10.4	14.7
BLACK PINE BUTYL	7100	4/01/85	---	11.1	12.1	15.4
BLOODY DICH	7600	3/29/85	47	12.6	12.0	14.4
BLOODY DICH BUTYL	7550	4/01/85	---	11.9	11.6	12.9
BLUE LAKE	5900	4/02/85	67	24.6	15.8	27.0
BOTS SOTS	7750	3/27/85	28	7.5	8.6	8.6
BOULDER MOUNTAIN	7950	3/25/85	61	19.6	20.8	20.2
BOULDER MOUNTAIN BUTYL	7950	4/01/85	---	19.7	22.0	22.7
BOX CANYON	6670	3/30/85	45	11.1	6.9	13.2
BOX CANYON METAL	6700	4/01/85	---	9.0	4.3	11.2
BRANHAM LAKES	8850	3/27/85	87	26.0	32.6	31.5
BRIDGER BOWL	7250	3/25/85	57	18.8	27.1	29.2
BRIDGER BOWL BUTYL	7250	3/25/85	---	17.9	27.2	27.7
BRISTOW CREEK	3900	3/25/85	29	11.4	11.4	11.4
BRUSH CREEK TIMBER	5000	3/29/85	40	11.4	5.0	10.3
BULL MOUNTAIN	6600	3/29/85	27	6.8	6.1	6.5
CABIN CREEK	5200	3/29/85	30	7.2	9	7.0
CALL ROAD	8050	3/30/85	42	9.7	13.3	13.0
CALVERT CREEK	6430	3/28/85	40	9.8	9.1	12.2
CALVERT CREEK BUTYL	6430	4/01/85	---	8.0	6.7	9.3
CANYON CREEK	6400	3/26/85	132	52.4	53.5	50.0
NEW YORK						
CAMP SENIA	7890	3/27/85	20	5.1	7.2	7.4
CARROT BASIN	9000	3/29/85	92	28.9	32.2	38.6
CARROT BASIN BUTYL	9000	4/01/85	---	23.2	27.3	29.9
CASHE CREEK	7800	4/01/85	30	7.4	11.2	9
CASHE CREEK METAL	7800	4/01/85	---	8.4	9.1	9.3
CEONAR GROVE	3760	3/25/85	50	17.1	10	13.2
CHESSMAN RESERVOIR	6200	3/28/85	22	5.6	3.4	3.9
CHICKEN CREEK	4060	3/26/85	40	13.4	10.0	15.5
CLOVER MEADOW	8600	3/30/85	59	16.0	18.9	19.1
CLOVER MEADOW METAL	8600	4/01/85	---	15.4	20.3	17.9
COLE CREEK	7950	4/01/85	49	13.6	17.6	18.9
COLE CREEK BUTYL	7950	4/01/85	---	13.1	18.0	17.6
COLLEY CREEK	6300	3/28/85	31	7.1	6.4	9.4
COMBINATION	5600	3/28/85	23	4.6	5.4	6.6
COMBINATION BUTYL	5600	4/01/85	---	5.8	4.9	6.8
COONIE STATION	8150	3/28/85	61	17.4	14.8	21.0
COPPER BOTTOM	5200	4/02/85	36	12.4	6.6	11.4
COPPER BOTTOM BUTYL	5200	4/01/85	---	12.9	8.1	13.3
COPPER CAMP BUTYL	6950	4/01/85	---	29.3	19.5	39.3
COPPER CAMP	6950	4/02/85	65	26.1	19.1	32.8
COPPER CREEK	5700	4/02/85	36	14.0	8.5	15.5
COPPER LAKE CREEK	6100	4/02/85	59	22.9	14.4	25.2
COPPER MOUNTAIN	7700	3/25/85	42	9.5	11.4	12.2
COTTONWOOD CREEK	6400	3/29/85	43	10.6	9.0	9.0
COYOTE HILL	4200	3/25/85	34	11.3	5.0	10.4
CRICK MOUNTAIN	8490	3/29/85	40	10.0	9.3	11.5
CRYSTAL LAKE	6050	3/25/85	49	13.8	19.0	15.1
CRYSTAL LAKE METAL	6050	4/01/85	---	16.8	17.8	14.3
DAR CREEK LAKE	8400	3/30/85	48	12.5	14.9	15.4
DATSY PEAR	7600	3/25/85	40	9.4	8.4	12.7
DAILY CREEK	5780	3/28/85	44	11.4	10.9	12.2
DAILY CREEK METAL	5780	4/01/85	---	10.8	9.4	14.4
DARKHORSE LAKE	8600	3/29/85	75	21.9	25.7	28.9
DARKHORSE LK. METAL	8700	4/01/85	---	18.6	24.6	25.2
DAVIS CREEK	5400	3/25/85	62	21.6	15.0	26.2
DEADMAN CREEK	6450	3/28/85	47	11.5	10.6	12.2
DEADMAN CREEK BUTYL	6450	4/01/85	---	11.6	9.6	11.4
DEVILS MOUNTAIN	5600	3/24/85	52	17.7	12.5	16.6
DEVILS MOUNTAIN	8100	3/29/85	63	17.4	23.0	23.7
DISCOVERY BASIN	7050	3/28/85	37	9.8	11.7	11.1
DIVIDE BUTYL	7800	3/30/85	37	10.1	12.5	12.0
DIX HILL	6400	4/01/85	---	9.8	12.2	12.2
DUPUYER CREEK BUTYL	5750	3/31/85	35	10.9	11.5	11.4
EAGLE CREEK	5760	4/01/85	---	13.0	5.2	5.2
EAST BOULDER	5150	3/27/85	47	13.0	14.2	15.5
EAST FORK R.S.	5400	4/02/85	84	27.0	23.0	32.8
ELI DORADO MINE	7800	3/25/85	21	6.1	4.4	6.2
ELI HORN SPRINGS	7800	3/26/85	63	17.3	19.2	22.8
ELI PEAR	8000	3/29/85	41	8.0	7.5	9.9
ENERGY CREEK	4350	3/26/85	51	14.8	16.7	15.3
ENERGY CREEK BUTYL	4350	3/26/85	49	18.2	12.0	16.3
FATTY CREEK	5500	4/01/85	---	19.1	11.6	16.5
FISH CREEK	8000	3/27/85	46	9.8	9.4	10.2
FISHER CREEK	9100	3/28/85	100	36.1	29.3	41.1
FISHER CREEK BUTYL	9100	4/01/85	---	30.2	26.7	38.0
FLUTE-BULL	5700	4/02/85	26	8.5	10	7.2
FLATTOP MOUNTAIN BUTYL	6300	4/01/85	---	44.5	33.6	48.2

SNOW COURSE	ELEVATION	DATE	SNOW DEPTH	WATER CONTENT	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1961-80
FLEECER RIDGE	7500	3/29/85	41	11.2	8.4	12.0
FLOLHEN	8280	3/29/85	53	14.2	13.7	18.3
FOREST LAKE	6400	3/27/85	42	12.0	10.3	13.7
FOUR MILE	6900	3/26/85	39	9.6	9.0	9.4
FOURTH OF JULY	3450	3/28/85	37	11.8	3.6	9.2
FREO BURR PASS	8000	4/01/85	67	19.6	25.4	26.7
FREIGHT CREEK	6000	4/02/85	44	14.8	8.7	16.7
FRIDAY HILL	4620	3/28/85	66	21.5	13.0	24.5
FROHNER MEADOWS	6480	3/28/85	24	6.4	6.8	8.9
FROHNER MOUNT BUTYL	6480	4/01/85	---	8.2	8.3	8.8
GARVER CREEK	4250	3/25/85	34	11.2	5.3	11.3
GARVER CREEK BUTYL	4250	4/01/85	---	10.0	4.2	10.2
GIBBONS PASS	7100	3/25/85	68	22.0	22.3	24.2
GOAT MOUNTAIN	7000	3/30/85	39	11.1	5.3	11.5
GOLD CREEK LAKE	7200	3/26/85	48	12.8	15.5	17.0
GOLD STONE	8100	3/29/85	55	15.4	16.6	18.2
GRASSHOPPER	7000	3/26/85	31	7.8	6.2	6.4
GRAVE CREEK	4300	3/25/85	53	18.2	11.8	18.3
GRAVE CREEK BUTYL	4300	4/01/85	---	18.6	11.6	17.1
GRIFFIN CREEK DIVIDE	5150	4/01/85	40	12.8	6.6	12.1
GUNSLIGHT LAKE	6300	4/03/85	102	37.1	31.9	41.6
HAND CREEK	5030	3/29/85	49	14.9	9.2	15.0
HAND CREEK BUTYL	5030	4/01/85	---	13.1	8.2	16.0
HAWKINS LAKE	6450	3/25/85	73	28.2	19.7	33.5
HAWKINS LAKE BUTYL	6450	4/01/85	---	22.6	16.2	30.9
HEART LAKE TRAIL	4800	3/29/85	69	25.8	15.8	23.0
HERGEN DAM	6550	3/28/85	44	10.6	13.0	12.5
HELL ROARING DIVIDE	5770	4/01/85	34	30.8	24.0	33.1
HERRICK JUNCTION	4850	3/26/85	71	24.4	18.0	28.6
HOLBROOK	4530	4/03/85	17	9.6	4.2	10.2
HOOD MEADOW	6600	3/26/85	37	9.2	10.3	12.0
HOODOO BASIN	6050	3/29/85	124	52.4	39.3	52.7
HOODOO BASIN BUTYL	6050	4/01/85	---	43.4	34.7	47.1
HOODOO CREEK	5900	3/29/85	113	46.4	36.2	49.2
INDEPENDENCE	7850	3/30/85	66	16.8	13.2	19.6
INTERGAARD	6450	3/26/85	30	6.4	7.5	9.3
JANUKE LAKE TRAIL	7200	3/29/85	45	11.2	9.8	10.2
JOHNSON PARK	6450	3/26/85	23	5.5	5.1	7.7
KEELER CREEK	3300	3/25/85	45	19.0	11.3	11.3
KINGS HILL	7500	3/28/85	57	15.2	13.6	15.2
KISHENEW	3890	3/30/85	29	7.2	1.4	7.8
KIWANIS CAMP	3720	3/29/85	3	6	0	1.2
KRAFT CREEK METAL	4750	4/01/85	---	13.6	9.7	12.4
LAKE CREEK	6100	3/30/85	31	7.0	9.5	9.2
LAKEVIEW CANYON	6930	3/25/85	50	11.2	8.6	13.2
LAKEVIEW RIDGE	7400	3/25/85	47	10.5	8.1	11.6
LAKEVIEW RSG. METAL	7400	4/01/85	---	13.4	11.2	13.1
LEHMI PASS	7480	3/30/85	34	9.1	9.2	9.6
LEHMI RIDGE	8100	3/30/85	40	10.0	11.0	11.0
LEHMI RIDGE BUTYL	8100	4/01/85	---	9.8	12.3	11.4
LICK CREEK	6860	3/26/85	42	9.9	11.9	11.0
LICK CREEK BUTYL	6860	4/01/85	---	9.6	11.0	10.1
LITTLE PARK	7400	3/27/85	54	12.9	17.0	17.2
LOGAN CREEK	4300	3/29/85	30	7.9	3.6	7.7
LOME MOUNTAIN	8880	4/01/85	68	23.4	23.4	23.9
LOST HORSE	5940	3/27/85	81	29.4	27.2	34.4
LOST SOUL	4800	3/25/85	48	15.9	8.0	16.0
LOWER TWIN	7900	3/26/85	69	21.4	22.4	22.8
LOWER TWIN METAL	7900	4/01/85	---	16.4	20.3	21.3
NEW YORK						
LUBRECHT FLUME	4680	4/01/85	6	2.2	0	4.2
LUBRECHT FLUME BUTYL	4680	4/01/85	---	3.5	0	5.5
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 3	5450	3/29/85	20	5.2	4.8	7.5
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 4	4650	3/29/85	6	1.6	0	2.6
LUBRECHT FOREST NO 6	4040	3/29/85	4	1.3	0	2.8
LUBRECHT HYDROPLLOT	4200	4/01/85	5	2.4	0	5.9
MAITSON PLATEAU	7750	3/25/85	82	21.4	20.0	24.5
MAITSON PLT BUTYL	7750	3/25/85	---	22.4	18.0	25.2
MANY GLACIER	4900	3/30/85	64	21.2	13.2	21.7
MANY GLACIER BUTYL	4900	4/01/85	---	18.6	12.1	19.3
MARIAS PASS	5250	3/31/85	56	20.1	11.4	18.5
MAYNARD CREEK	6210	3/25/85	41	12.5	15.3	16.9
MAYNARD CREEK BUTYL	6210	3/25/85	---	8.2	12.2	13.3
MIDDLE HILL CREEK	7850	3/27/85	57	14.2	19.7	17.8
HILL CREEK	7500	3/28/85	43	10.2	12.0	14.5
MINERAL CREEK	4000	3/27/85	52	18.2	11.8	18.8
MONUMENT PEAK	8850	3/30/85	84	24.2	19.4	28.2
MONUMENT PEAK METAL	8850	4/01/85	---	18.1	16.7	24.3
MOULTON RESERVOIR	6850	3/31/85	36	8.1	8.8	7.0
MOUNT LOCHMART	6400	4/01/85	66	22.6	14.2	24.4
MT LOCKHART BUTYL	6400	4/01/85	---	19.9	12.1	23.1
MUDO LAKE	7650	3/28/85	60	17.4	16.0	21.5
MULE CREEK	8300	3/29/85	53	13.2	12.0	16.0
MULE CREEK METAL	8300	4/01/85	---	13.8	12.7	15.6
NEVADA CREEK	6480	4/02/85	43	14.5	10.6	15.0
NEVADA CREEK METAL	6480	4/01/85	---	13.7	7.8	14.3
NEW WORLD	6900	3/25/85	45	13.5	16.7	16.5
NEWTON MOUNTAIN	5600	4/05/85	90	36.0	22.5	39.2
NEZ PERCE CAMP	5650	3/26/85	44	13.7	13.6	15.9
NEZ PERCE CAMP BUTYL	5650	4/01/85	---	14.2	13.7	15.9
NEZ PERCE CREEK	6600	3/25/85	23	5.2	7.3	7.4
NEZ PERCE PASS	6570	3/26/85	43	14.4	17.0	18.3
NOISY BASIN	6040	3/26/85	124	46.8	50.1	46.6
NOISY BASIN BUTYL	6040	4/01/85	---	41.5	45.9	40.5
NORTH FORK ELK CREEK	6250	3/30/85	37	11.1	9.6	13.2
N. FORK ELK CREEK BUTYL	6250	4/01/85	---	10.7	10.0	13.1
NORTH FORK JOCKO	4350	4/03/85	97	35.9	39.8	47.6
NORTH MEADOW	7500	3/26/85	42	10.6	9.6	9.3
NORTHEAST ENTRANCE	7350	4/01/85	29	7.5	6.5	10.1
N.E. ENTRANCE BUTYL	7350	4/01/85	---	8.0	7.3	10.0
NOTCH	8500	3/30/85	50	12.9	20.8	17.2
OPHIR PARK	7150	2/31/85	55	17.8	17.9	18.5
PALISHOE CREEK	8250	3/28/85	77	27.3	24.4	31.0
PETERSON MEADOWS	7200	3/27/85	45	10.8	11.6	11.2
PETERSON MOUNT BUTYL	7200	3/27/85	---	10.1	11.1	11.6
PICKET PIN D	9450	4/02/85	69	23.5	20.5	27.5
PICKET PIN LOWER	6209	3/28/85	20	5.4	5.4	2.4
PICKET PIN MIDDLE	7259	3/26/85	39	12.4	11.2	14.1
PICKET PIN UPPER	8106	3/28/85	61	17.8	19.2	22.2
PICKFOOT CREEK	6650	3/25/85	34	10.5	9.5	12.1
PICKFOOT CREEK METAL	6650	4/01/85	---	8.5	9.7	13.2
PINE CREEK	5930	3/21/85	73	26.6	15.6	28.7
PINE CREEK BUTYL	5930	4/01/85	---	30.0	17.4	30.1
PISTONE PASS	7200	3/25/85	27	5.8	5.0	6.1
PLACER BASIN F	8830	4/02/85	52	19.0	18.0	22.4
PLACER BASIN METAL	8830	4/01/85	---	15.8	15.6	17.9
POORMAN CREEK	5100	3/25/85	96	38.5	24.2	36.9
POORMAN CREEK BUTYL	5100	4/01/85	---	38.0	21.4	33.9

Columbia River Drainage

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

APRIL 1, 1985

BASIN, STREAM and/or FORECAST POINT	THIS YEAR				PAST RECORD				THIS YEAR				PAST RECORD			
	FORECAST		PAST RECORD		FORECAST		PAST RECORD		FORECAST		PAST RECORD		FORECAST		PAST RECORD	
	Thousand Acres	Feet	Thousand Acres	Feet	Thousand Acres	Feet	Thousand Acres	Feet	Thousand Acres	Feet	Thousand Acres	Feet	Thousand Acres	Feet	Thousand Acres	Feet
PERIOD	APRIL - SEPTEMBER				APRIL - JULY				APRIL - JUNE				APRIL - JUNE			
KOOTENAI RIVER below Libby Dam (1)	5,910	84	5,466	7,041	5,050	84	4,520	6,020								
FISHER RIVER near Libby	272	103		264	258	104		248								
PAK RIVER near Troy	470	90		523	450	90		500								
KOOTENAI RIVER at Leona (1)	7,420	86	6,534	8,602	6,470	86	5,596	7,498	5,200	86	4,282	6,051				
INFLUX HOULTON RESERVOIR at Butte (Million Gallons)	38.4	82		46.8	31.0	82		37.8								
WARM SPRINGS CREEK AT MEYERS DAM near Anaconda (2)	15.1	93		18.3	12.8	93		15.4								
FLINT CREEK near Southern Cross (3)	61.4	81	26.3	75.8	48.5	81	21.3	59.5								
FLINT CREEK below Boulder Creek (4)	11.8	75		15.7	11.2	74		14.9								
INFLUX LOWER WILLOW CREEK RESERVOIR near Hall (5)	65.1	83	11.6	78.2	58.7	83	10.2	70.5								
MIDDLE FORK ROCK CREEK near Philipsburg	19.3	94		23.0	18.1	84		21.3								
NEVADA CREEK near Finn	850	85		999	770	85		904	670	86		782				
BLACKFOOT RIVER near Bonner	470	92		816	575	81		708	490	82		597				
CLARK FORK RIVER above Milltown (6)	1,520	84	1,565	1,815	1,370	85	1,360	1,612	1,175	85	880	1,379				
CLARK FORK RIVER above Missoula	148	83		178	138	84		164								
WEST FORK BITTERROOT RIVER near Conner (7)	490	84		580	450	85		532	395	85		464				
BITTERROOT RIVER near Darby	44.5	83		56.0	40.4	83		48.7								
SHALIMHO CREEK near Hamilton	31.0	83		37.4	26.8	83		32.2								
BURNT FORK CREEK near Stevensville (8)	1,250	83		1,504	1,150	83		1,384	990	83		1,191				
BITTERROOT RIVER at Missoula (9)	2,770	83		3,319	2,495	83		2,996	2,150	84		2,570				
CLARK FORK RIVER below Missoula	3,770	85	3,732	4,411	3,410	86	3,322	3,928	2,950	86	2,825	3,428				
CLARK FORK RIVER at St. Regis	1,743	91		1,913	1,580	91		1,732	1,340	91		1,471				
NORTH FORK FLATHEAD RIVER near Columbia Falls	1,760	94		1,866	1,620	95		1,713	1,390	96		1,453				
MIDDLE FORK FLATHEAD RIVER near West Glacier	2,160	95		2,278	2,034	95		2,142	1,790	95		1,886				
SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD RIVER near Columbia Falls (10)	5,770	93	4,738	6,208	5,390	94	4,294	5,721	4,690	95	3,589	4,921				
FLATHEAD RIVER at Columbia Falls (10)	645	94		689	570	94		604								
SWAN RIVER near Big Fork	6,800	93	5,586	7,278	6,200	93	5,102	6,712	5,350	92	4,284	5,759				
FLATHEAD RIVER near Polson (11)	11,000	91	9,695	12,153	10,000	90	8,914	11,071	8,510	90	7,457	9,459				
CLARK FORK RIVER near Plains (11)	250	96		261	225	97		233								
THOMPSON RIVER near Thompson Falls	142	100		142	132	100		132								
PROSPECT CREEK at Thompson Falls	12,400	91		13,575	11,300	91		12,351	9,620	91		10,570				
CLARK FORK RIVER at Whitehorse Rapids (12)																

- (1) Adjusted for storage in Lake Kootenai.
- (2) Adjusted for storage in Silver Lake, diversions to and pumping from Georgetown Lake.
- (3) Adjusted for storage in Georgetown Lake, diversions from and pumping to Silver Lake.
- (4) Sum Flint Creek at Maxville and Boulder Creek at Maxville.
- (5) Sum of North Fork Lower Willow Creek near Hall and South Fork Lower Willow Creek near Hall.
- (6) Difference in observed flow Clark Fork above Missoula and Blackfoot near Bonner.
- (7) Adjusted for storage in Painted Rocks Reservoir.
- (8) Adjusted for diversion into Sunset Highway Canal.
- (9) Difference in observed flow Clark Fork above and below Missoula.
- (10) Adjusted for storage in Hungry Horse Reservoir.
- (11) Adjusted for storage in Hungry Horse Reservoir and Flathead Lake.
- (12) Adjusted for storage in Hungry Horse Reservoir, Flathead Lake and Noxon Rapids Reservoir.

ALL FORECASTS PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK		
STREAM or AREA	Expressed as "Poor, Fair, Good, Excellent" with Respect to Supply	
	Setting	Flow
Tobacco	Avg	Avg
Little Bitterroot	Avg	Avg
Mission Valley	Avg	Avg
Flint Creek	Avg	Fair
Upper Clark Fork	Avg	Fair
Nevada Creek	Avg	Avg
Blackfoot	Avg	Fair
West-side Bitterroot	Avg	Fair
East-side Bitterroot	Avg	Fair
Bitterroot River	Avg	Fair
Lower Clark Fork	Avg	Avg

Northern drainages near average

Near to a little below average is forecast for the Kootenai and Flathead River drainages. On the Clark Fork headwaters, streamflows are predicted to be a little lower and generally in the 80 to 85 percent of average range.

Low elevation snowmelt water is beginning to appear in the streams and rivers.

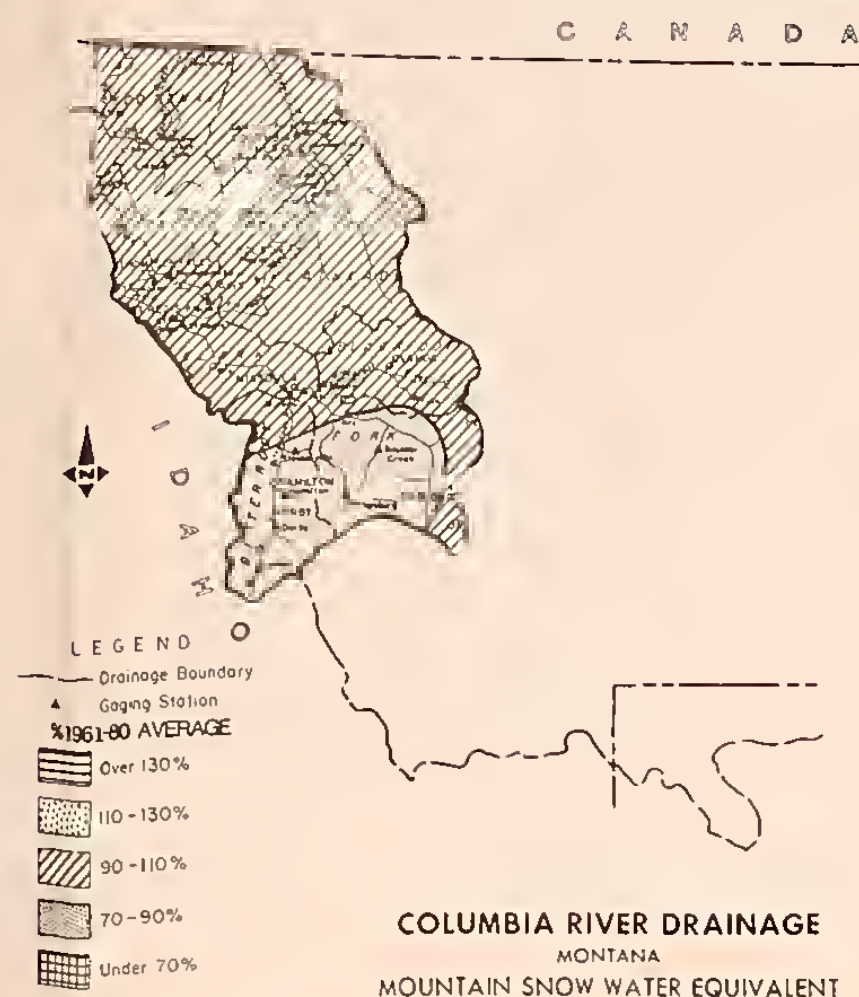
Some mid- and late season shortages of irrigation water are anticipated in the Bitterroot, Clark Fork and Blackfoot River drainages, particularly on the smaller streams.



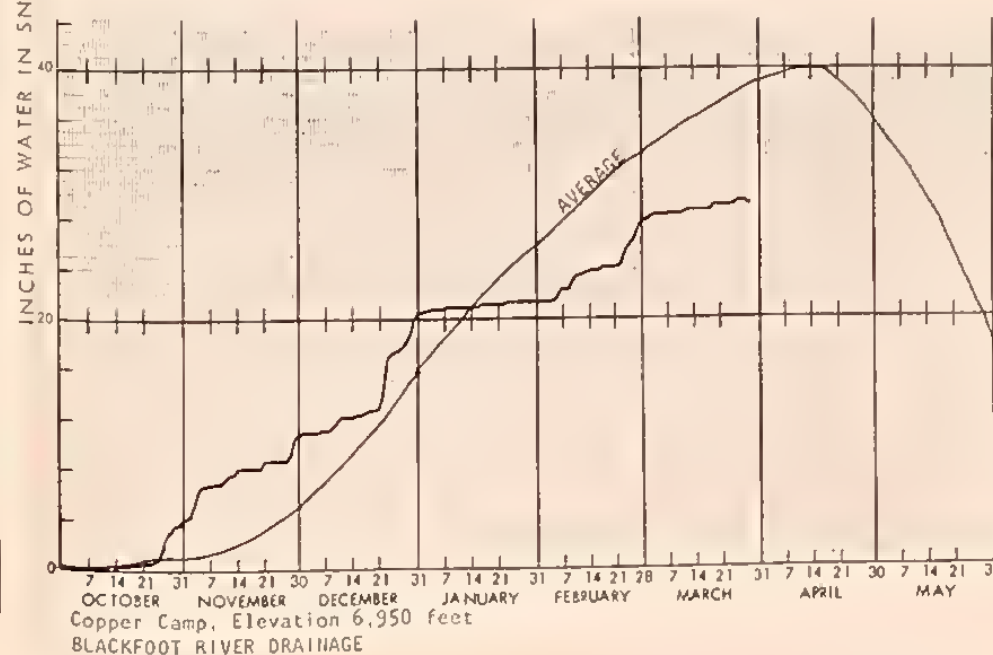
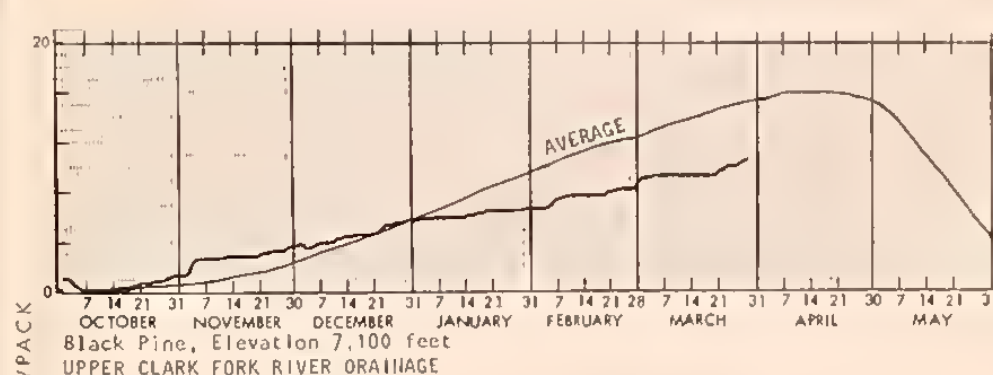
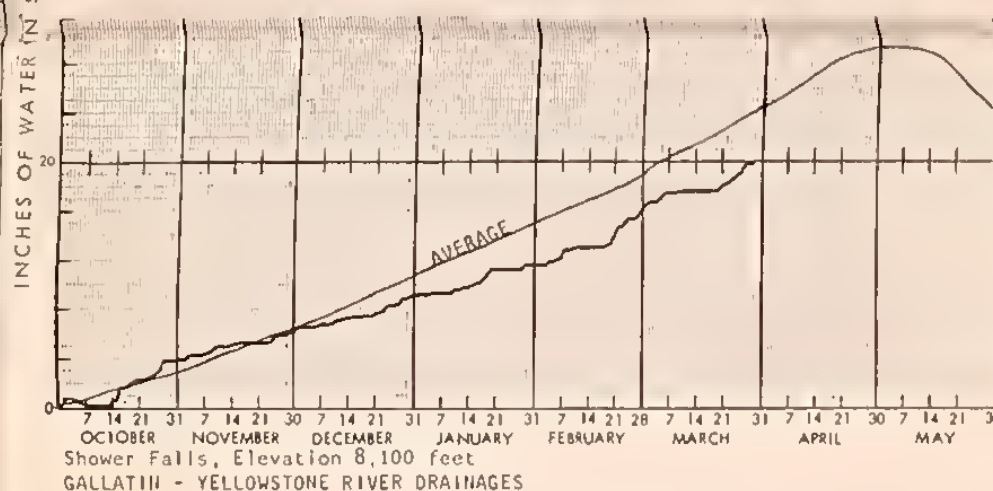
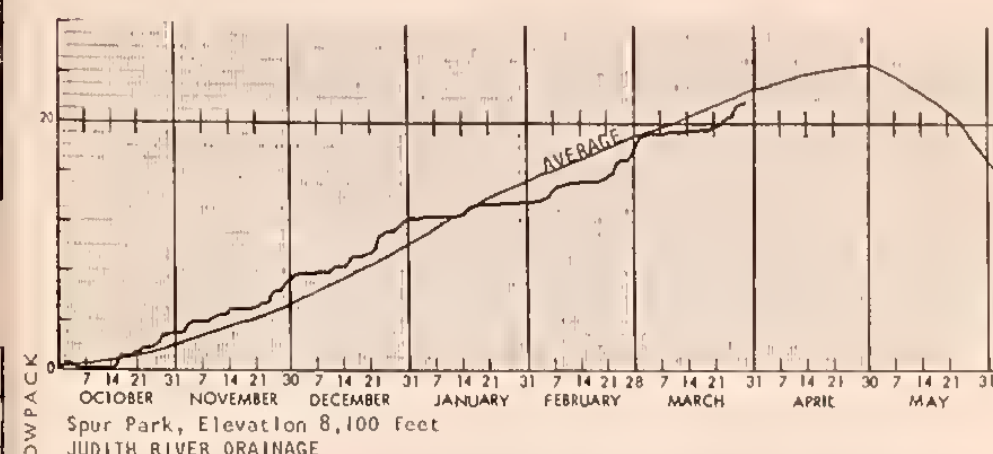
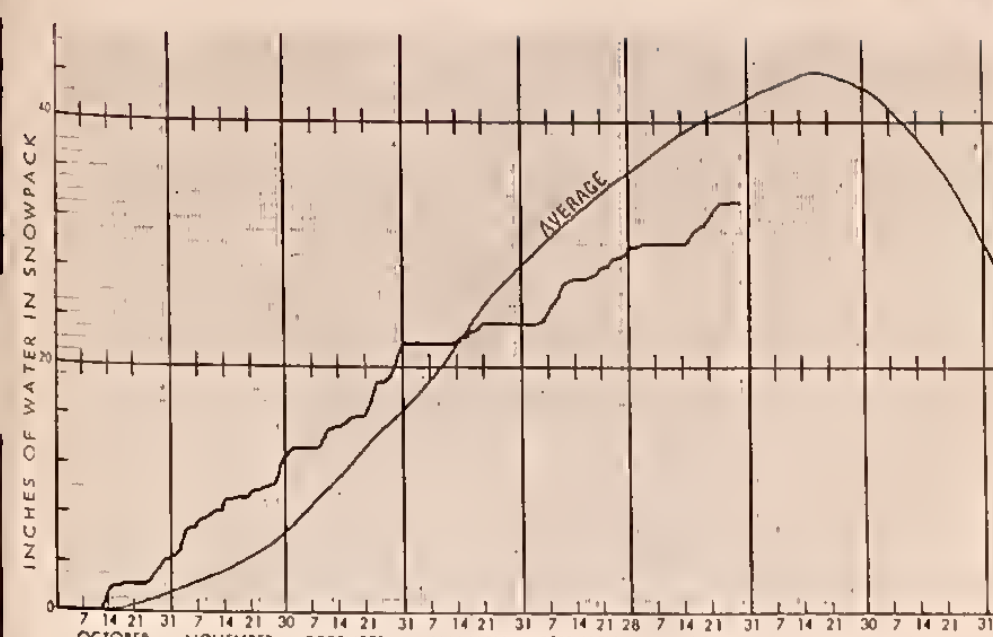
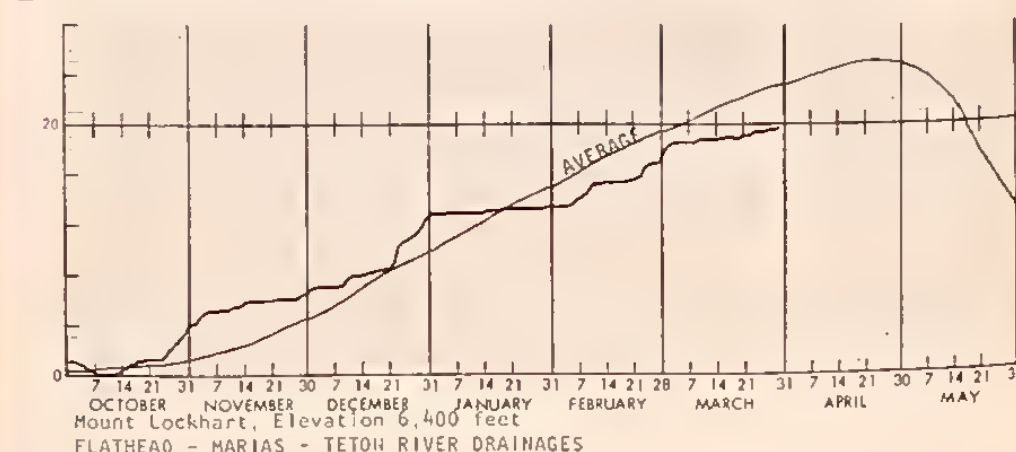
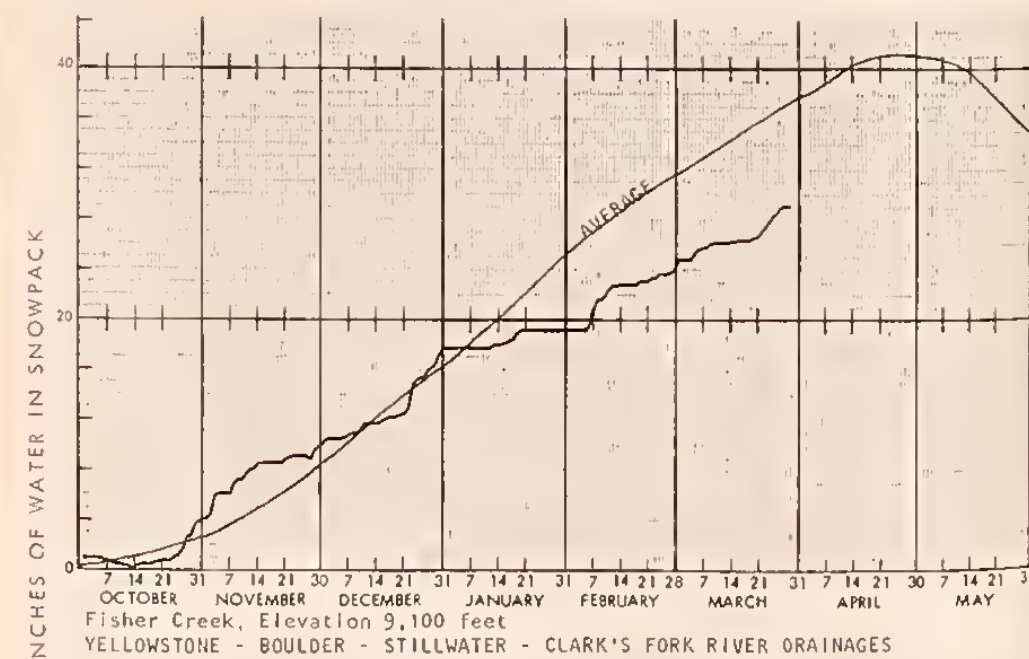
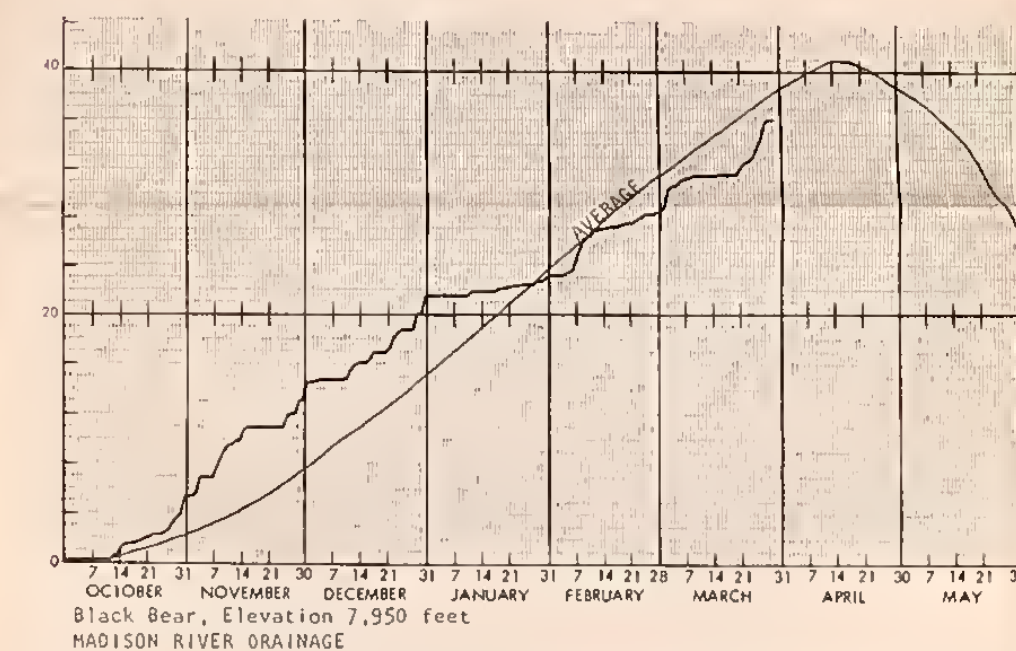
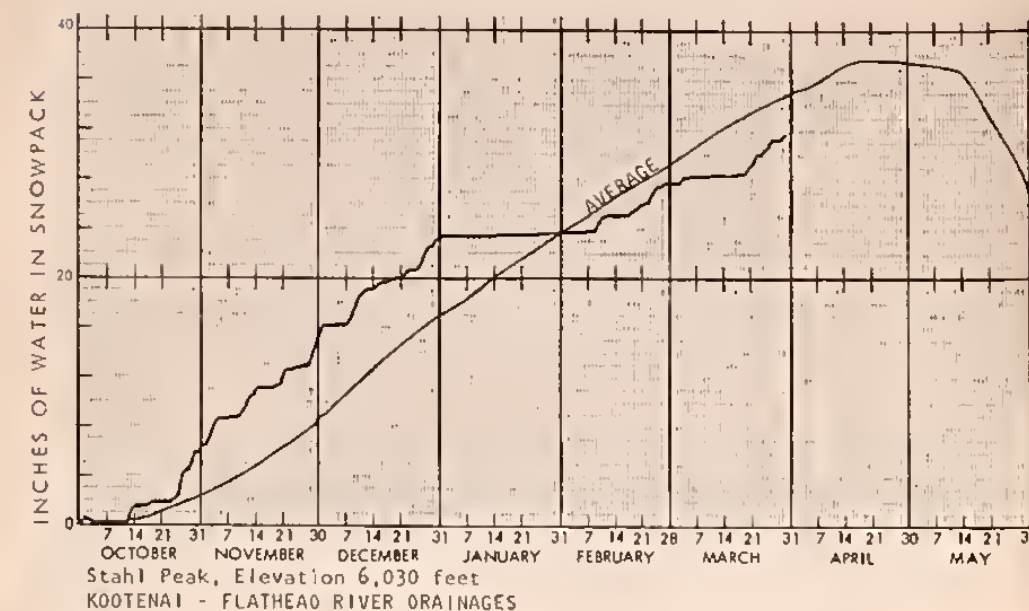
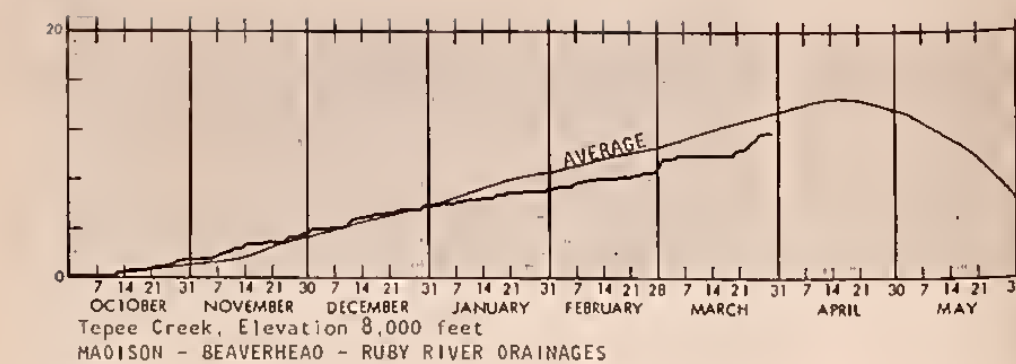
Most of Columbia near average

Most of the Columbia River headwaters in Montana have near average snow water content. The Bitterroot and Clark Fork River above the Blackfoot still show below average snowpack. In these areas the water stored in the snow is about 85 percent of average.

Some melt started in the lower elevations near the end of March.

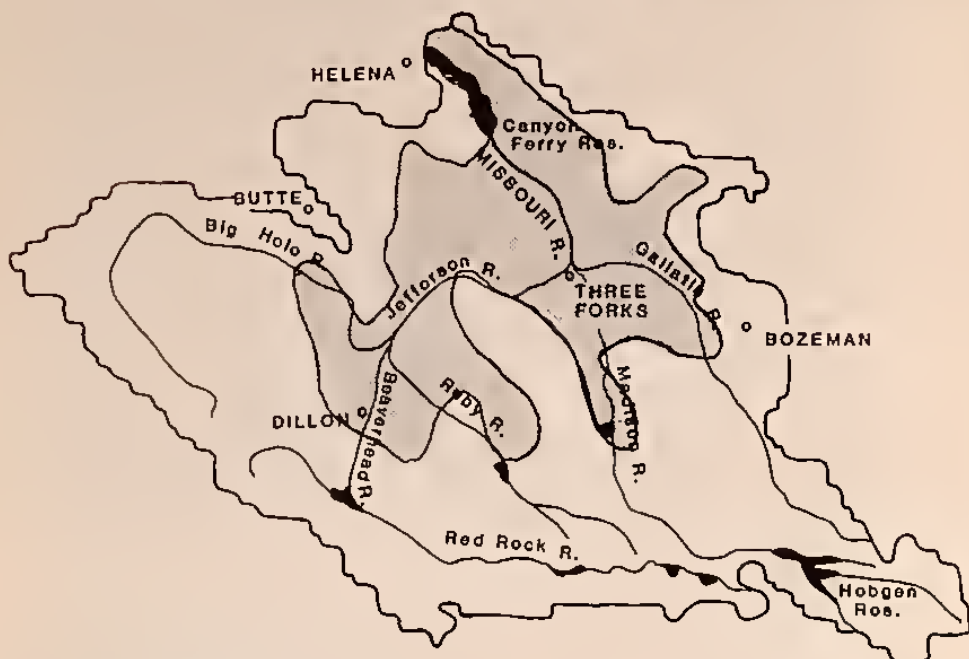


SNOW PILLOW DATA



SATELLITE SNOW COVER

DATA PROVIDED BY NOAA/NWS



Snow Covered Area
 April 2, 1985

Scale 1:2,500,000

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN Above Canyon Ferry Dam

DATE	PERCENT SNOW COVER	AVERAGE SNOWLINE ELEVATION IN FEET
February 25, 1985	100	3800
March 7, 1985	100	3800
March 11, 1985	100	3800
March 14, 1985	97	4180
March 17, 1985	94	4450
April 2, 1985	80	5340

RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet) END OF MONTH March 31, 1985

BASIN OR STREAM	RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY	USABLE STORAGE		
			THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE
COLUMBIA					
Kootenai	Kootenusa	5,748.2	1,801.0	2,513.0	1,694.0
Flathead	Hungry Horse	3,451.0	1,796.0	2,074.0	2,054.0
	Flathead Lake	1,791.0	649.3	682.4	762.0
	Camas (4)	45.2	18.0	30.2	23.1
	Mission Valley (8)	100.3	37.6	58.0	41.1
Clark Fork	Georgetown Lake	31.0	24.8	27.2	23.7
	Lower Willow Creek	4.9	1.3	3.6	1.8
	Nevada Creek	12.6	4.1	8.1	7.4
	Noxon Rapids	334.6	156.2	322.3	197.6
Bitterroot	Painted Rocks	31.7	---	---	16.6
	Como	34.9	10.1	20.5	14.6
MISSOURI					
Beaverhead	Lima	84.0	31.9	54.8	38.0
	Clark Canyon	257.2	151.8	181.0	147.6
Ruby	Ruby	38.8	33.3	34.6	30.3
Madison	Hebgen Lake	377.5	297.0	261.7	233.6
	Ennis Lake	41.0	32.3	39.0	35.0
Gallatin	Middle Creek	8.0	3.7	3.9	3.9
Missouri	Canyon Ferry	2,043.0	1,394.0	1,574.0	1,498.0
	Hauser & Helena	61.9	62.4	63.0	60.0
	Helena Valley	9.2	3.2	3.7	4.9
	Lake Helena	10.4	10.7	10.9	9.8
	Holter Lake	81.9	78.1	79.6	64.9
	Fort Peck Lake	18,910.0	15,720.0	16,010.0	15,040.0
Smith	Smith River	10.6	9.6	10.8	7.6
	Newlan Creek	12.4	9.0	8.7	9.1
Musselshell	Bair	7.0	1.2	3.8	5.2
	Martinsdale	23.1	4.8	15.1	9.6
	Deadman's Basin	72.2	48.0	63.6	49.7
Sun	Gibson	99.1	55.2	58.6	46.2
	Willow Creek	32.2	13.4	24.4	22.1
	Pishkun	32.0	18.5	19.3	18.2
Marias	Lower Two Medicine	11.9	---	---	8.0
	Four Horns	19.2	---	---	12.6
	Swift	30.0	10.7	14.4	16.8
	Lake Frances	111.9	24.8	47.6	71.2
	Elwell (Tiber)	1,347.0	680.9	693.1	562.3
Hilk	Beaver Creek	3.5	1.1	3.2	2.1
	Fresno	127.2	16.3*	40.4	86.7
	Nelson	66.8	15.9	40.2	38.7
HUDSON BAY					
St. Mary's	Lake Sherburne	64.3	31.9	10.5	24.0
YELLOWSTONE					
Stillwater	Mystic Lake	21.0	1.0	1.6	4.2
Clark's Fork	Cooney	27.4	21.7	19.5	15.8
Tongue	Tongue River	68.0	16.2	23.8	41.6
Bighorn	Bighorn Lake	1,356.0	866.7	850.9	607.2

*NOTE: Fresno Reservoir storage on 2/28/85 was listed as 75.1. The correct storage should have been 7.5.

AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS COOPERATING IN MONTANA SNOW SURVEYS

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Canada

Department of the Environment
 Atmospheric Environment Service
 Water Management Service
 British Columbia Ministry of Environment
 Inventory and Engineering Branch, Hydrology Section
 Alberta Environment
 Technical Services Division

Federal

Department of the Army - Corps of Engineers
 Department of Agriculture - Forest Service
 Department of Commerce - Soil Conservation Service
 Department of Commerce - National Environmental Satellite Service
 Department of Commerce - National Weather Service
 Department of Interior - Bureau of Indian Affairs
 Department of Interior - Fish and Wildlife Service
 Department of Interior - Geological Survey
 Department of Interior - National Park Service
 Department of Interior - Bureau of Reclamation
 Department of Energy - Bonneville Power Administration

STATE AGENCIES

Montana Conservation Districts
 Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
 Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
 Montana State University - Agricultural Experiment Station
 University of Montana - School of Forestry

PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

The Anaconda Company
 Big Sky of Montana
 Butte Water Company
 Flathead Valley Community College
 Montana Power Company
 Pondera County Canal & Reservoir Company

Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for snow survey reports. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.



Snow should continue to accumulate at high elevations throughout April.

